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CHAL-1178
Copy 5 of 8

3 September 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR : Chief of Operations, DD/P
THROUGH : Acting Chief, Development Projects Division *SWB*
SUBJECT : Supply of L Tablets on Hand in Project CHALICE
REFERENCE : Book Dispatch No. 2067, dated 4 August 1960

1. This paper contains a recommendation for the Chief of Operations, DD/P. Such recommendation is contained in paragraph 4.

25X1A6a 2. Technical Services Staff (now Technical Services Division) provided Project CHALICE with a total of twenty L pills, divided evenly between CHALICE Detachments in [REDACTED] in the summer of 1956. These particular items received special environmental testing at that time, designed to determine their suitability for retention for long periods of time at extremely high altitudes and under maximum temperature changes in the range of minus 100 degrees F through plus 140 degrees F.

25X1A6a 3. At that time no formal paperwork was exchanged between the CHALICE Staff and TSS, save for the usual hand receipts once delivery was accomplished. These items were placed under Top Secret Control and shipped to the overseas units in custody of the Chief Security Officer in each location. The ten pills in the Detachment at [REDACTED] are still on hand. None has been expended, though a sample of a later model device (poison needle) was sent to [REDACTED] and subsequently expended at the time of the CHALICE incident on May 1, 1960. That item has not been replaced.

25X1A6a 4. The ten pills formerly with the CHALICE unit in [REDACTED] were shipped back to the ZI in August of this year, and are presently in the custody of the Chief Security Officer of the CHALICE Detachment at [REDACTED] California. Although the operational future of CHALICE remains indistinct,

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present plans call for a retention of overflight capability in both the domestic unit and the overseas detachment. Under these circumstances, we request permission to retain all twenty L pills until such time as the units are either disbanded or a more improved lethal device is made available, permitting substitution for the items currently on hand. The Division intends to open discussions shortly with TSD leading to development of a new concealment device for the poison needle item, which for many reasons is superior in air operations to the bulkier L pill.

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[REDACTED]

Assistant Chief
DPD-DD/P

Recommendation in paragraph 4 APPROVED:

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[REDACTED]

Chief of Operations
DD/P

Distribution:

- 1 - ASST CH/MPD
- 2 - CCPS
- 3 - DB/P
- 4 - C/TSD
- 5 - AC/MPD
- 6 - DPD/SO
- 7 - DPD/CPS
- 8 - DPD/RI

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DPD-DD/

[REDACTED]

Jr./mg

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